Government of
Saskatchewan

Annual Report
For the fiscal year ending
March 31, 1984

Saskatchewan
Science and
Technology

Table of Contents

Letter of Transmittal 4

Deputy Minister's Transmittal 5

Organization Chart 6

Background 7

Mandate 7

Programs 8

Expenditure Review 9

Letter of Transmittal

Hon. G. G. Currie

Saskatchewan
Science and
Technology

Minister

To His Honour
The Honourable F. W. Johnson
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan

May It Please Your Honour:

The undersigned has the honour to submit the annual report of the Department of Science and Technology for the year 1984.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Currie

G. G. Currie
Minister of Science and Technology

Deputy Minister's Transmittal

Saskatchewan Science and Technology

Deputy Minister

The Honourable G. G. Currie
Minister of Science and Technology
Regina, Saskatchewan

Sir:

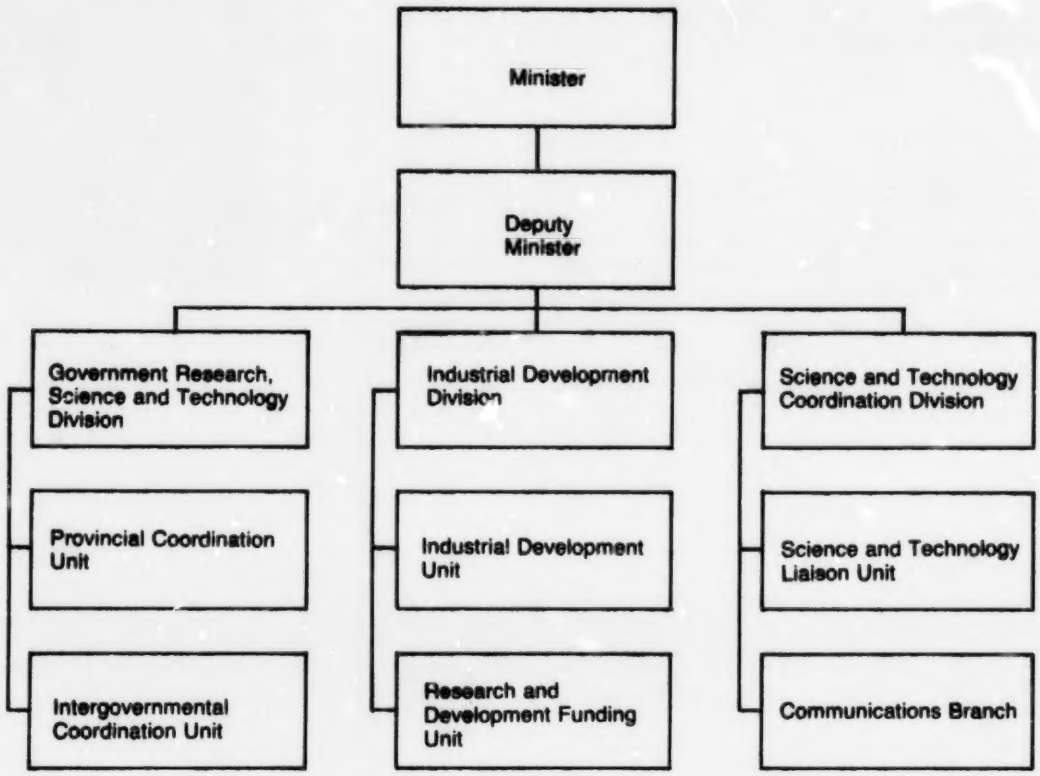
I have the honour of submitting the annual report of the Department of Science and Technology for the year ending March 31, 1984.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. Y. Guy
Deputy Minister
Science and Technology

A. J. Y. Guy

Science and Technology Organization
As of March 31, 1984



Effective Date
March 31, 1984

Approved by
A. J. Y. Guy

Background

Early in 1983 a Special Advisor on Science and Technlogy reported to the Government of Saskatchewan regarding a comprehensive study into science and technology activity within the province. The intent was to focus on the formulation of public policy related to science and technology, to achieve effective co-ordination of research efforts of government, industry and universities, to provide a leadership role for government departments, agencies and crown corporations in developing an explicit approach to science and technology as a component of provincial development, and to raise the government's profile on matters of science and technology. Under review were both demand and provision for science and technology services within the province.

On June 8, 1983 the Premier of Saskatchewan announced a science and technology strategy and program for the province. The strategy was the result of careful study undertaken regarding government support for high technology development. In particular, consideration had been given to investigation of venture capital sources and programs, the provision of a public and business focal point for science and technology, the co-ordination of existing government-funded research, and the role of public communications and advisory boards.

Following this policy announcement The Honourable Gordon Currie was appointed Minister responsible for establishing the Department of Science and Technology in July, 1983.

Enabling legislation was developed, and an Act respecting the Department of Science and Technology officially came into force on January 1, 1984. The Special Advisor on Science and Technology, Dr. Alex J. Y. Guy, was appointed Deputy Minister of The Department of Science and Technology.

Mandate:

The policies and programs of the new department are:

(1) To bring about a greater co-ordination of research, science and technology efforts of industry, government, universities, public sector research and development supply agencies.

(2) To support the development of industry in the province through the development, transfer, utilization and exploitation of technology.

(3) To enhance the role of the province in maximizing the science and technology return for public sector expenditure.

(4) To foster effective co-ordination and planning activities in the provision of science and technology services by the Saskatchewan Research Council, the two provincial universities and public sector laboratories in the province.

(5) To develop and co-ordinate international, federal, provincial and interprovincial science and technology activity to promote provincial new technology advancement.

(6) To bring a renewed focus on the questions of how public policy questions related to science and technology might best be handled.

(7) To advise the public of Saskatchewan on science and technology matters leading to the development, transfer, utilization and exploitation of technology to achieve the economic and social advancement in the province.

To accomplish these goals, the Department is structured into 3 divisions.

(1) Government Research, Science and Technology Division

   a. Provincial Co-ordination Unit

   b. Intergovernmental Co-ordination Unit

(2) Industrial Development Division

   a. Industrial Development Unit

   b. Research and Development Funding Unit.

(3) Science and Technology Co-ordination Division

   a. Science and Technology Liaison Unit

   b. Communication Branch.

Programs

(A) Governmental Research, Science and Technology

During the year under review, initial work was undertaken to begin co-ordination of research activities with all provincial departments, agencies and crown corporations. In addition, formal liaison between the provincial and federal governments was instituted for examination and co-ordination of efforts related to establishment or expansion of research infrastructure facilities, including the Linear Accelerator Laboratory, the Plant Biotechnology Centre of the National Research Council, and the National Toxicology Centre. Preliminary negotiations were also begun on a Canada/Saskatchewan ERDA Sub-Agreement on Advanced Technology. Strategies were also initiated for increased international co-ordination and exchange of scientific research and new technology development, particularly with China, Japan and Western European countries.

(B) Industrial Development Division

During the year under review, a $5,000,000 allotment was designated for Industrial Research and Development Programs. This annual allotment is derived from the Saskatchewan Heritage Fund.

During fiscal 1983-84 the New Ventures Program, provided business planning assistance to thirty-seven existing and new companies active in advanced technology products. Twenty new firms were established as a consequence of efforts of this program.

The groundwork was laid for the Inventor Services Program. Dr. Gerald Udell, Director of the Innovation Institute in Eugene, Oregon, agreed to perform commercial evaluation for Saskatchewan inventors seeking to assess the market viability of ideas and concepts. In addition, agreements were reached with the University of Regina, Faculty of Engineering, and with the Saskatoon-based Saskatchewan Research Council, to act on behalf of the Department of Science and Technology, facilitating the technical and commercial evaluation of inventions for Saskatchewan's innovators.

(C) Co-ordination Division

To communicate departmental progress to the scientific and industrial community, researchers, inventors, governments and the general public, press releases and announcements were distributed, and a New Ventures Planning Kit was produced in preparation for distribution.

Analysis and planning was initiated to implement the Departmental mandate of dissemination of information about matters of science and technology to the general public, and to identified groups and organizations performing research and development in the province.

Statement of Expenditures for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 1984.

Administration	$ 70,485.73
Governmental Research	11,545.88
Industrial Development	104,412.37
Research Co-ordination	15,005.42
Total	**$201,449.40**